

Abstract of Bachelor Thesis

The bachelor thesis “The Media Policy of the U. S. Occupation Administration in Bavaria on the example of Radio Munich” is dealing with a question, how the U. S. occupation administration influenced the functions of radio in Bavaria between years 1945–1946. It is focusing on a personnel policy and a form of control in the broadcasting. The compilation treatise shows that there was a considerable asymmetry between the American and German staff in Radio Munich. The number of Germans that could have participated in the programme production was gradually increased since the launch of broadcasting in May 1945, but there were Americans who had the authority, to decide about the employment of applicants and binding rules for all staff. The entirety of the programme was under U. S. control before its broadcasting. At the turn of the year 1945/1946, an obvious disagreement arose between members of the U. S. occupation administration and official U. S. policy towards Germany. Whereas the U. S. government required to withdraw its forces and make the radio broadcasting speedily independent, the Americans in the management of Bavarian radio didn't agree with that operation, because they were convinced the local personnel wasn't ready to take over full responsibility. They emphasised that the time they worked in Radio Munich was to act more as teachers than as censors in an attempt to enable their German colleagues to acquire all key principles. The enactment of rule in radio broadcasting in Bavaria is the second important aspect that is followed in the thesis. The working of the radio in the region was managed at first in accordance to regulations of the occupation administration, which were in force for throughout the region. However, the rising tension between the USA and the Soviet Union accelerated the discussion about laws that should have protected the basic principles of radio broadcasting. As a result, Germany's representatives became better partners through lawmaking, and their relationships would be strengthened.